

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /063 W

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R 091434Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4394

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USCINCEUR VAIHINGEN GERMANY

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 5511

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: REPORTS OF INCIDENTS IN GOJJAM

REF: (A) ADDIS 3903; (B) ADDIS 5179; (C) ADDIS A-72

1. EMBOFF WHO MADE FIELD TRIP INTO GOJJAM (REPORTED IN REFERENCES) DEBRIEFED THREE AMERICAN SOURCES IN ADDIS ON MAY 9 WHO HAD ALSO BEEN VISITED IN GOJJAM DURING SUBJECT FIELD TRIP.

2. SOURCE LIVING IN FENOTE SELAM REPORTED THAT THE VERY DAY EMB-OFFS HAD VISITED HER (APRIL 11), A MOSLEM VILLAGE WAS BURNED BY CHRISTIANS RIGHT OUTSIDE FENOTE SELAM. SUBSEQUENT TO THAT, CHRISTIANS FROM OUTLYING AREAS DEMANDED THAT FENOTE SELAM RESIDENTS HAND OVER MOSLEMS WHO HAD TAKEN REFUGE IN THAT CITY. SOURCE REPORTED THAT VILLAGERS WERE "PREPARED TO THROW MOSLEMS TO CHRISTIANS" BUT ARMY STEPPED IN. IN ORDER TO DISSUADE CHRISTIANS FROM KILLING MOSLEM REFUGEES, ARMY BURNED DOWN FIVE CHRISTIAN VILLAGES NEAR FENOTE SELAM KILLING 60-70 PEOPLE. SOURCE BELIEVES, CONFIDENTIAL

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AS REPORTED PREVIOUSLY FROM OTHER SOURCES, THAT SEMEGNEH DESTA

IS INCITING ANTI-MOSLEM VIOLENCE. EMBASSY, HOWEVER, HAS REPORT THAT THESE ARE REFUGEES FROM W. GOJJAM DRIVEN OUT OF THEIR AREA BY CHRISTIANS WHO WANT TO DENY THEM LAND REFORM BENEFITS.

3. TWO OTHER AMCITS LIVING IN BAHR DAR (ALSO VISITED BY EMBOFFS DURING SUBJECT FIELD TRIP), REPORTED BAHR DAR NOW VERY TENSE BECAUSE OF CHRISTIAN VIOLENCE DIRECTED AGAINST MOSLEMS. DURING LAST WEEK OF APRIL, SEVERAL HUNDRED ROUNDS WERE FIRED BY VILLAGERS IN AN INCIDENT WHICH TURNED OUT TO HAVE BEEN CAUSED BY ONE SHOT FIRED AT THIEF ATTEMPTING TO STEAL DONKEY. DURING LAST WEEK OF APRIL, GOJJAMI CHRISTIANS BURNED OUT MOSLEM VILLAGE 30 KILO-METERS SOUTH OF BAHR DAR AND THEN FOLLOWED MOSLEM REFUGEES INTO BAHR DAR AND APPARENTLY DISRUPTED TOWN MARKET UNTIL SOME 150 SOLDIERS WHO WERE CALLED IN DISPERSED MOB. REF A PERTAINS. SAME TWO SOURCES REPORT THREE BUS LOADS OF PEOPLE ROBBED BY BANDITS SOUTH OF BAHR DAR SINCE EMBOFFS' VISIT.
HUMMEL

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